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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 31 | Min 16 | Humidity 32% Misty morning and partly cloudy Sensex 55,858 | Nifty 16,658 | Gold 50,370 | Silver 64,151 | Dollar 75.15 | Euro 84.46 | GBP 100.58

COVER STORY: **Residents redesign drainage, drain covers that are easily accessible unlike heavy concrete or granite slabs**

DRAIN MAKERS

Citizens' ingenuity makes drain cleanup easy

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Concrete slabs or rough cut granite slabs are often used to cover drainage networks in the city. As a result, during cleanups, it often gets difficult as the slabs are heavy and require more than two individuals to lift them.

In order to make the handling of slabs that cover drains easier in neighbourhoods, the residents of Brookefield have installed removable drain covers in their locality: the method helps in easy cleaning of drains.

Residents installed removable drain covers along walkways to facilitate weekly drain cleaning, which would check flooding or water clogging in the neighbourhood.

The drains and covers are designed by the engineers and architects from the Brookfield Layout residents group — the same have been installed in different sizes as per requirement across the locality.

"The drains are usually covered with large and almost immovable slabs. These are heavy and require at least 2-3 people to handle. Here, we have installed steel covers which are welded into the concrete; the drainage cover opens like a door, one can just open it. We designed the drain and had the covers made. It even has a stainless steel mesh inside, which prevents leaves from falling in," said Arvind Keerthi, member of Brookefield Layout Residents group.

"We have installed steel covers welded into concrete; now the drainage cover opens like a door.

— Arvind Keerthi, resident

When there are concrete slabs installed, it gets difficult for one to clean it everyday as the removal itself is a tedious process.

"To remove the concrete slabs it takes about 2-3 people's work. For cleaning, the labourers would charge around Rs 1,000-2,000 for one day's work. With metal drain covers, one can easily lift it to do the work," added Keerthi.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

Beauty and the trees

Seven trees in front of school cut down 'to beautify premises'

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TWEETS @Pragna_MIRROR

A private school allegedly cut down seven trees in front of its premises to beautify the building in Kadubeesanahalli. The residents who took notice raised concern over the tree felling and demanded the authorities to take stringent action.

Naveen Vemula, a resident of Panathur and an employee at a private firm said he was the first person to notice the trees being cut on February 14 — he suspects they might have cut down the trees on the previous night or on February 12.

He said: "There were seven Ashoka trees planted in front of the school on the footpath and they are at least eight to 10 years old. Recently the civic authorities had taken up work on footpaths and laid tiles for beautification leaving some space around the trees for water passage. As soon as I noticed the trees missing from the footpath, I approached the security guard and the manager of the school to inquire; they spoke to me very rudely and told me that it was none of my business, and asked me to get out. I brought it to the notice of other residents as a lot of vehicles frequent the road in front of the school and there's a lot of pollution. Trees are very important to us and we need to protect them to have a healthy and safe environment."

Vemula added that he and the residents

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

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Cop's cup of coffee warms hearts & hands

An ASI is winning citizens' hearts after news of him sharing a coffee with a defaulter went viral, for all the right reasons.

Recently, the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) had become infamous among the public because of several incidents of traffic officers expressing rage at the common man. In this case, a small act of kindness from 59-year-old ASI Prabhakar from Yeswanthpur Traffic Police Station is going a long way.

The defaulter had gone to the station to pay a fine. He had accumulated 23 fines ranging from helmet fines to signal jumps. In total, he had to pay Rs 9,600 in fines. But instead of treating him like a criminal, the ASI followed him to a nearby coffee shop.

"I took him for coffee and sat him down and advised him not to waste money in paying fine and not to repeat such behaviour," said ASI Prabhakar.

"Time and again, we are told to be people-friendly police. In meetings with higher officers and DCP, we have been instructed to be good to citizens and not treat them like criminals," he added.

Septuagenarian, granddaughter found dead at home in Jnanabharathi

A 70-year-old woman and her 25-year-old granddaughter were found dead inside their residence in Jnanabharathi on Thursday night. While the old woman's body was found on the bed with injuries on her face, the granddaughter was found hanging in the same room.

Thedeceased have been identified as N Jayamma and her granddaughter M Mamta, a homemaker.

Police suspect that the two fought with each other and Jayamma died after Mamata pushed her to a wall. Police said that the incident came to light when a neighbour alerted Mamta's elder brother Chetan Kumar saying that she found them dead.

Jayamma resided in a two-bedroom rented accommodation. According to sources, she and her family were supposed to go to Mandya for a wedding but Mamta didn't go due to her health issues. Jnanabharathi police have registered a case and are investigating.

Court grants Chetan Kumar bail

Kannada actor and political activist Chetan Kumar who was arrested on Wednesday was granted bail on Friday evening.

The 32nd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate court while granting him bail directed the Sandalwood star to furnish a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh along with two sureties of Rs 1 lakh each. The actor was picked up for questioning by the Central Division's Seshadripuram police on February 23.

Property site scam: Man duped of Rs 2 lakh

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A 50-year-old man was duped by a stranger who promised to help him get a property site under special schemes for backward classes and took an advance of Rs 2 lakh before absconding.

Shekar, a resident of Garvebhavi Palya and a tailor by profession, approached the Electronic City police on Tuesday to file a complaint against the accused, Balakrishna of cheating. Shekar said that he was introduced to Balakrishna by his friend who had also similarly invested money with him and trusted him to get a site. He met Balakrishna in February 2020 and after he convinced him to get a site, after a few months he paid Rs 2 lakh as advance and waited for him to hand over the site papers.

Shekar's wife told BM that Balakrishna spoke to them and nine others in their circle who belong to the backward class and promised to help them to get a site. "We are illiterate. He took advantage of that and showed us some documents and did not let us take photos or a xerox copy to verify with others. He told us that the site papers will only be handed over once the advance payment was made. I and nine others fell for the trap without realising that he was cheating us. He kept telling us that it is part of a government scheme for backward class community and we had to pay only Rs 6.5 lakh to get the 30x40 site registered in our name. My daughter who is married also decided to buy a site with the help of our relatives and friends who agreed to lend us some money. Balakrishna informed us that we had to pay Rs 1 lakh as an advance for one site and as we had applied for two, we paid Rs 2 lakh."

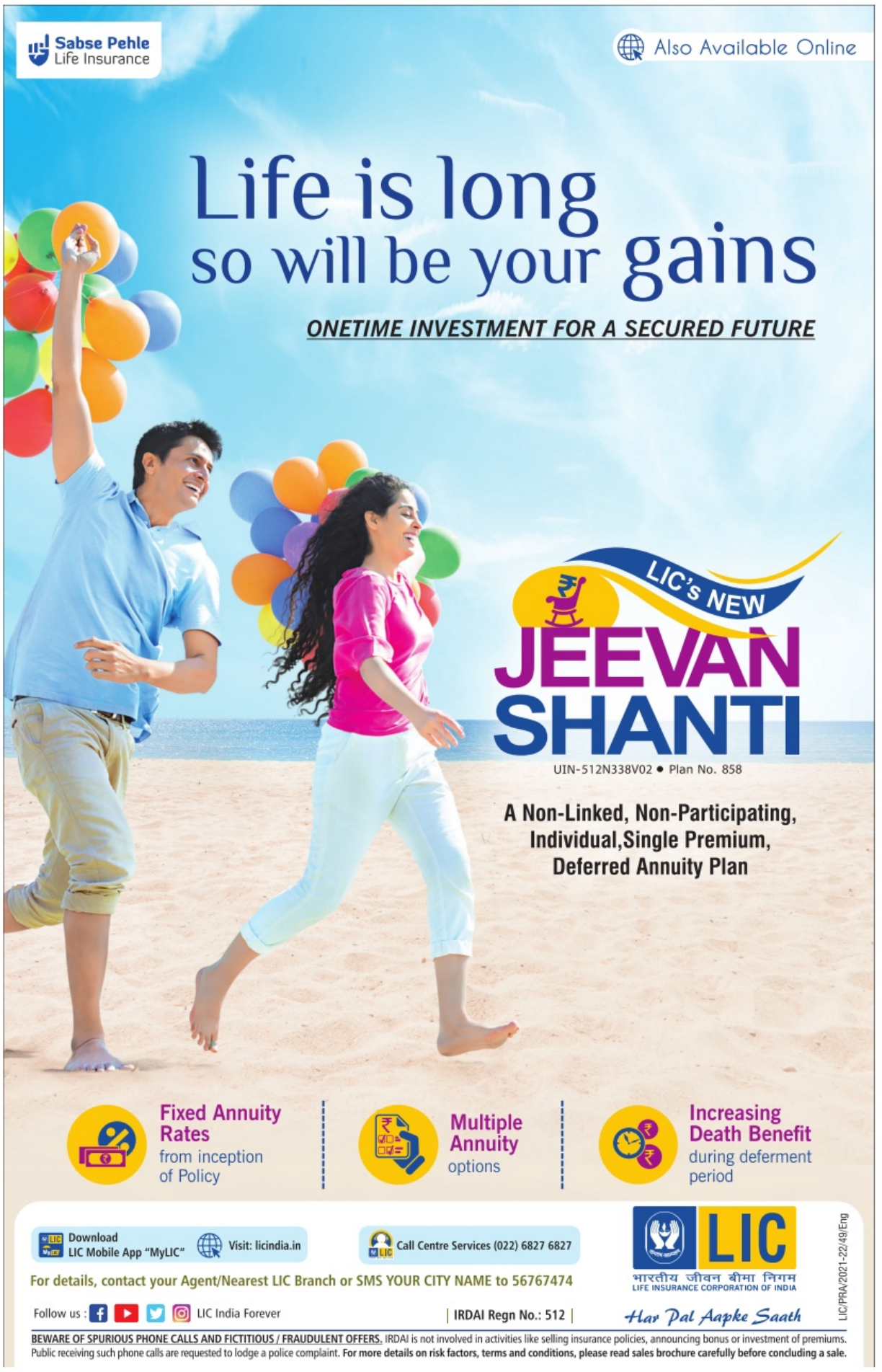
The victims were taken to a site Vinayak Nagar and shown around

The accused, Balakrishna, wallegedly took advantage that they could not read or write, and showed them fake documents to trick them

She said that the accused even took them to Vinayak Nagar to show the sites. "He took lakhs of rupees from everyone and didn't give us the property documents. He kept saying that it was delayed due to the pandemic and when we went to visit the site by ourselves, we saw people building houses on the sites shown to us. Only after enquiring with them, we learnt that he cheated us. Now, others are coming forward to file a complaint," she said.

A senior police officer said that so far, only one person has come forward to file a complaint and they are taking statements from the other victims.

Electronic City police have registered a case of cheating and are investigating.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Roadblocks to mobility

Yawning gaps: Authorities keep digging up roads in Chelekere for one civic work or the other

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ROMILA PADHI

Narayana Swamy, a differently abled gardener, has to walk on this unsteady plank to enter and leave his workplace Diya Foundation

In Chelekere, Chikkathayappa Reddy Layout, residents feel forgotten. It's been over six years since the road was last in a good shape. Residents here do not have Cauvery water or steady electricity either. To add to their trouble, civic authorities keep digging the road for various works.

Cheryl Fernandez, a resident of the locality wrote to BM: "Four weeks ago, BBMP officials informed three houses on our street they'll be digging the road for works related to the storm water drain. They said the work would be completed within a week."

But four weeks have passed since the officials gave their word. It's been two weeks since a worker visited the road on Wednesday. Piles of debris and construction material line the entire stretch. The SWD is uncovered and there are no barricades to ensure safety.

In these weeks, Fernandez and other residents tried to file a complaint through the BBMP helpline and were redirected to BWSSB. When they contacted BWSSB they were asked to contact BBMP instead.

"We moved here six-and-a-half years ago. We've observed various authorities dig the road for various works but the road is never restored or levelled. The last time we had an asphalted road was four years ago," said Sreekumar K, an advocate.

The road has many potholes, its surface is rough in places and covered in dust too. The trees along the road are covered with dust too.

"Wipe a leaf with your finger to check. We never open our windows or doors, yet there's always dust at home. It's really taking a toll on our health. We step out and start choking and coughing," said Rajendra Prasad, a senior citizen. When workers showed up on Wednesday, they began digging the other side of the street.

"The supervisor says it's BBMP work. He said they are unable to restore the road after previous works due to a lack of concrete slabs. But they are digging the other side of the road too. We can barely get out of our homes," Fernandez said.

Prasad said more than 20 senior citizens live in this neighbourhood. Some are in their 80s. "They cannot step out. Those bedridden or using wheelchairs cannot be escorted outside for a stroll either."

Fernandez told BM two senior citizens in her home couldn't visit the hospital, recently, due to the bad condition of the roads.

Diya Foundation, a charitable trust for the differently abled, is also located on this road.

Narayana Swamy, its gardener, is differently abled. He walks using hands.

"I have to walk on a narrow, shaky, steel plank that connects our office to the road to cross the SWD. It's scary. Look at my fingers, the dust and debris are scratching them everyday," Swamy said.

Sendhil Kumar, production incharge, Diya Innovations, Diya Foundation, said, "Since covid vocational training for the differently-abled students was paused. We resumed classes recently but only 15 students are able to come. Many use wheelchairs and cannot enter the building until the road is repaired."

That the locality does not receive Cauvery water doesn't make any sense, Sreekumar said. "The authorities replaced old pipelines years ago. Yet we have to depend on borewells and tanks.

> **I have to walk on a narrow, shaky, steel plank that connects our office to the road to cross the SWD. It's scary...**
>
> –Narayana Swamy

Only three families in the neighbourhood own borewells. "Everyone else buys water. Each tank costs Rs 800. Sometimes multiple tanks arrive at the same time. The road is narrower now because of piles of mud and debris. The whole stretch gets blocked then," Kumar said.

During rains, the whole stretch was filled with slush. Residents said they were glad no one got covid but they were constantly worried an ambulance would not be able to enter the layout to help them in their time of need.

"My neighbour Antony parks his car in front of my home because there's no way to take his car out on the road near his home. So I have to call him each time I want to take my car out to move his... We're managing somehow but is this the way things should be?" Sreekumar asked.

Residents wonder if BBMP will ever fix their road or if they'll be stuck in their homes behind oiles of dust and debris.

Trees cut to 'beautify school'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

were very disappointed with the school as the institution should be teaching the children to save trees and cutting them is illegal but they are setting a very wrong example.

Vishal Lavti, a resident of Panathur living in an apartment right next to the school, said that he and the residents filed a complaint with the BBMP and the forest department demanding action. "Though we learnt about it much before, we waited to confirm if the school had taken any permission to carry out the act; after the officials confirmed that they had not, we went ahead with the complaint," he said.

An official from the forest department said when they visited the spot and questioned the school staff and management, they were told that the trees were blocking the building and they cut them down to beautify the area.

"They informed us that they had planted those trees and decided to cut them down. The trees were not inside the premises and it was on the road. They had no right to cut them down as it belonged to the public and BBMP," he said.

Hanumanthappa, range forest officer, Mahadevapura zone, said an FIR was registered against the school on Tuesday and a notice issued. "The school authorities have stated that they were not aware of the tree felling; their staff have cut them down without their knowledge. This is a violation and we immediately took cognisance and registered a case. We will also file a detailed report about the incident and the accused shall be punished and fined," he said.

> **When forest department questioned school staff and management, the officials were told trees were blocking the building**

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Board block
RR Nagar

This board across the Apollo Pharmacy on 60 Feet Road blocks the path for pedestrians.

Remove encroachment
JP Nagar

Please see this pavement near RV Dental College in 1st Phase. It has been encroached. Officials concerned must take action.

Allergic to waste
Jayanagar

Waste material has been lying on 41st Cross on 8th Block in Jayanagar for the past three. Residents say it is aggravating skin allergies.

What caused the bus blaze? BMTC finds out

Transport utility probe finds bus fires originated from short circuit due to loose parts in the starter

Most of these buses under BMTC were purchased seven – eight years ago

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BMTC and the Ashok Leyland team are currently reworking the electricals, to prevent a mix-up

BMTC officials have said that all 189 midi-segment buses of Ashok Leyland-make are going to go through intense scrutiny before plying on the road. This comes after two buses of a similar make caught fire recently. However, BMTC officials clarified that buses won't be recalled permanently.

Last month, two BMTC buses caught fire and the analysis revealed that both were of Ashok Leyland-make.

To investigate, BMTC had constituted a committee comprising the team from Ashok Leyland, some fire officers, BMTC mechanics and drivers, and officials from BMTC's Mechanical Department.

Though in both cases, there were no casualties, the buses were burnt to a crisp. Luckily, BMTC was able to find the same issue in another third bus and they were able to contain the fire. Upon investigating, they found that the fire emanated from the engine area.

"The third bus became pivotal to finding out the cause of the fire. In other cases, the fire had destroyed the buses and we could not pinpoint the exact origin of the fire," said BMTC Director Surya Sen.

According to the report filed by the committee, the fire originated due to an electric short circuit in the starter. "The probe has revealed that the short circuit was due to loose parts in the starter. The rubber washer was being excessively getting heated and was also receiving a high electrical surge when the buses were switched on," said Sen.

In addition, he added that in all of the midi-segment buses, the fuel line also passes very close to the overheated component. Once the washer gets burnt, the fuel line also catches fire leading to a quick engulfing of the fire in the case of these buses.

Another problem with these buses is that they have smaller chambers due to which there is lesser space.

There are 189 such buses under BMTC's fleet and most of these buses were purchased seven - eight years ago. Older buses like these lack a multiplex circuiting that can solve many other problems, say officials. "Multiplex circuiting was introduced in buses four - five years back and our old buses don't have this advanced circuiting. In the case of multiplex circuiting, there is a lesser percentage of fire. It is also easier for repairs and in case of a problem, the dashboard itself identifies the origin point. In the case of the old system, we need to manually search," said a senior official from BMTC.

Sen added that currently all these buses are being checked thoroughly and being released after passing the tests. Emphasising that the fire also starts in case of heating, he added that buses won't be permanently recalled from the roads and will ply only after passing the tests.

BMTC along with the Ashok Leyland team are reworking the electricals, bunching and cleaning them to prevent mix and match of wires.

He also instructed officials to replace the entire starter kit in case of a problem and not replace it with spare parts alone. "This change in procedure is going to cost BMTC more but we want to exercise due caution," added Sen.

BangaloreMirror
Why are BMTC buses catching fire?
Two BMTC buses catch fire in a span of 10 days
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Our report on Feb 4 reported on the two buses that caught fire within a span of 10 days

Man gets electrocuted while saving child

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A 31-year-old gas delivery boy risked his life to save a child in the neighbourhood from being electrocuted. But while he tried saving the child, he got electrocuted, suffering severe burns on his bodies and face.

Dhananjay, the delivery boy had gone to RBI Layout, JP Nagar Phase 7, in Konanakunte ward, to deliver gas. He happened to notice a three-year-old child playing on the road, and going closer to an electric pole. There was an electric wire which had fallen and Dhananjay asked the child to step away.

Dhananjay started tying up the fallen wire to prevent others from suffering an accident. However, while he started to roll up the wire, it ended up coming in contact with the BESCOM line of 11kV and Dhananjay got electrocuted. The spot caught fire and he suffered severe burns.

The incident happened in JP Nagar's RBI Layout

One of the residents said: "The incident happened on 19 February, and we heard screams. His face was burnt including other parts of the body. We rushed him to a hospital in RBI Layout." He was then admitted to the ICU.

The child also faced some minor injuries as the sparks hit him.

Initially he paid Rs 35,000 from his savings and then, the area's resident welfare association came forward to help him.

A resident from the association said, "With the contribution from 800 members we could crowdfund Rs 1 lakh. Dhananjay is now able to open his eyes.

"However, he will have to undergo skin grafting for his burns and continuous get medical treatment until the burns heal, for which he would be might be short of cash."

"If Dhananjay did not stop the child, he could have been electrocuted. It's unfortunate that he ended up injured," lauded a resident.

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Mysuru adopts fine way to stay clean

Failing to follow waste disposal rules, you've to pay upto ₹50K

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Mysuru has been consistently awarded the 'cleanest' city in Karnataka. However, it is yet to become the 'cleanest city' in the country. Hence, Mysuru City Corporation is strictly implementing waste management in the city. It will also impose huge fines for those who ignore the rules. It is planned to increase the fine from two to five folds to manage waste in an efficient way.

Earlier, the fine was from Rs 100 to Rs 5,000 for negligent handling of waste; it has now been increased to Rs 500-Rs 50,000.

In 2018, officials planned to implement Dry Waste Management Rules-2016 effectively. The fine was also planned to be imposed on the public and industries who fail to cooperate with the corporation in waste management.

As the dry waste was not managed properly, the Standing committee on health, education and society joined with the officials' team and revised the new fine rules and presented them in the Council meeting. Once approved, the new rules will be implemented.

Corporation Health Officer Dr Nagaraju said, "Mysuru is known as a clean city. To manage dry waste, it is decided to increase the fine amount. Through this, we are giving importance to cleanliness. We want the public to co-operate."

Corporation's Public Health and Education Standing Committee Chairman Usha Kumar said, "The civic body organised awareness programmes about littering in the city. But in some places, due to the negligence of the public, the problem of waste is increased. So, we have increased the fine amount."

After adopting awareness spreading ways around garbage disposal, MCC increased fine rates

> **"Mysuru is known as a clean city. By increasing the fine rates, we are giving importance to cleanliness. We want the public to co-operate**
>
> –Dr Nagaraju, MCC health officer

A resident of Vijayanagar said, "Cleanliness must start from home. Even though the public are aware of the proper disposal of garbage, some of them ignore it. It is better to create the fear of more fines. At least they will follow the rules to avoid paying heavy fines."

According to the revised rule, for littering, spitting, defecation and urinating, the first-time fine is Rs.500 and next time the defaulter has to pay Rs 1,000. For not segregating wet and dry waste, medical and poisonous wastes, the first-time fine is Rs 200 and for the second time, it is Rs.500. For industries, a fine of Rs 500 will be imposed for littering the first time and the second time, it is Rs 1,000. One has to pay Rs 5,000 for the first time a person litters public places, which will increase to Rs 10,000 the second time. Burning dry leaves for the first time will cost Rs 200 and it will be Rs 500 if repeated the second time.

If one burns plastic and dry waste the first time, the fine is Rs 500 and the second time it will be Rs 1,000. Burning e-waste for the first time will cost Rs 1,000 and if repeated twice, one has to pay Rs 5,000.

For safe disposal of construction waste, the authorities will fine a person throwing debris or waste of Rs 5,000 and if repeated twice, the offender has to pay Rs 10,000. If hotels, marriage halls, exhibitions and malls can't process waste properly, first time they will be charged Rs 20,000 fine which will increase to Rs 50,000 the second time.

Guest lecturer recruitments roll on

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The second round of counselling for the appointment of guest lecturers for the year 2021-22 began on Friday. Tentatively, 3,225 guest faculties will be appointed across colleges in Karnataka.

The two-day online counselling began after a considerable delay due to multiple discrepancies noted in the application forms filled in by the guest faculties earlier. "We have decided to give them a second chance. After many colleges rejected the applications due to false information, we asked the guest lecturers to resubmit applications after rectifying the false information. Over 4,000 applicants reapplied and will be reappearing for the second round of counselling. We are not expecting many variations this time. After this round, 3,225 lecturers are expected to report back to work immediately," said an official of the Department of Collegiate Education, Karnataka.

As per the DCE office, strict action might be taken against the lecturers who end up providing misleading information in the ongoing counselling. "They have got a second chance this time. However, in case of any further wrong information provided by the lecturers, the commissioner will take a call on such candidates," said the official.

According to guest lecturers' association of Karnataka, the faculties are expected to report to work from the next week.

"At the second round of online counselling, any rejection will happen only in case of discrepancies in the application form, which is unlikely. Post counselling, the DCE will announce the selection list of the candidates who will be allotted colleges based on their preferences. We have been advising the lecturers to abstain from providing misleading information in their application, as such an act repeated might lead to permanent cancellation of their candidature. After the selection list is published, the lecturers will immediately report back to their duties," said an association member. As many as 53,000 candidates applied for the position of guest faculty across the State this year, and 10,434 of them will be appointed.

Commerce, management lecturers in demand

The highest demand was seen for the commerce and management stream faculties. According to the subject-wise additional guest faculty requirement list (tentative) issued by DCE, as many as 400 vacancies are available for commerce and entrepreneurship lecturers.

Uniform development of city on the horizon: CM

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A master plan will be drawn up for uniform development of all areas of Bengaluru, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said. He was addressing the media after launching various development projects including 250-bed multi-specialty hospitals at Munnekolala, a flyover in Varthur ward, a 150ft-wide road and a police station at Marathahalli in Mahadevapura assembly constituency on Thursday evening.

All the civic amenities can be provided to people only if there is planned growth of Bengaluru. The basic infrastructure needs to be developed for core Bengaluru, seven erstwhile CMC areas of the city and 110 villages by providing mutual linkages and coordinated development. The master plan is being drawn up with an ambitious determination to ensure a uniform level of infrastructure and amenities for all the areas, Bommai said.

Mahadevapura to be the 'best area'

Referring to massive growth of Mahadevapura and development of infrastructure in the area, Bommai said, from software to enterprises of all sectors and housing complexes, Mahadevarapura has it all. Various civic works including Cauvery 4th phase and UGD are going on in the area. Mahadevapura is set to become the best area in Bengaluru in the coming days.

The new multi specialty hospital would bring a new era of good health services in the northeastern part of the city, he added.. It would be on par with the Bowring, Victoria and KC General hospitals.

CM Basavaraj Bommai (centre) inaugurates development projects in the city

Nagarothana Yojana

Under the Nagarothana Yojana, Rs 6,000 crore has been provided for development of Bengaluru. stormwater drains are being remodelled at a cost of Rs.1500 crore More than 20 STP plants need to function properly to ensure that only treated water is let into the drains. Instructions have been issued in this regard, Bommai said.

Green signal for Goraguntepalya soon

The CM stated that the Cauvery 4th phase drinking water project is in the final stages of completion. "UGD works too would be completed along with it and instructions have been issued. Authorities have been instructed to complete the extended 2nd phase of Bangalore Metro works before 2024 and start preparations for the next phase. The Goraguntepalya junction too would be decongested and elevated roads would be built."

Hijab issue: HC concludes hearing, reserves verdict

The Karnataka High Court bench on Friday concluded hearing petitions seeking the right to wear hijab while attending classes and asked all counsel to submit written submissions as it reserved its verdict.

The three-judge bench of Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, and Justices Krishna S Dixit, and J M Khazi heard arguments and counter-arguments for 11 days on a day today basis considering the urgency and sensitivity of the matter.

Counsel appearing for petitioners who are college students maintained that the government order issued in this regard does not have any legal standing and it violated their fundamental right to practice of religion and thereby denied them right to education which is paramount. They also argued that the constitution of the College Development Committee (CDC), and the School Development and Management Committee (SDMC) do not have legal sanctity.

They also questioned the appointment of political representatives attached to an ideology being given decision-making power in an academic environment. They also noted that there is no provision to prescribe uniforms in the act.

Students of Bharath PU College, Mastikatte in Ullal sitting outside the college gate on Friday.

The government, through Advocate General Prabhuling Navadgi, argued that the government has no role in taking decisions on wearing of hijab, and it is left to the discretion of the CDCs and SDMCs.

The AG argued that wearing of hijab is not an essential part of Islam and the government certainly has the authority to take decisions when it comes to public order, health, and morality. The bench was also informed on fundamental rights, individual in nature, being subjected to restrictions. The government has also submitted intelligence inputs and reports on the role of Campus Front of India (CFI) and other organisations in raking up the issue all of a sudden. The verdict is eagerly awaited as the issue has been discussed at the international levels.

The hijab row which started from Udupi Pre-University Girls' College has become a crisis in the state, with students refusing to attend classes without hijab and maintaining that they will wait until the final verdict is given. Though the high court had issued an interim order banning the hijab and saffron shawls or scarves inside the classrooms, the agitation is going on. **IANS**

Sri Datri-VK Property Expo 2022 begins today

Here is your golden chance to get your dream home at Sri Datri VK Property Expo 2022. The event is being organised by Vijaya Karnataka and powered by Bangalore Mirror on Saturday and Sunday for helping the public by creating a platform for buying the properties. There are plots, houses and apartments available for very less rates in the market.

The "Sri Datri VK Property Expo 2022" is being presented by Sri Datri Developers and Promoters at Chandrasagar Kalyana Mahal, Jayanagar 2nd Block on February 26 and 27, 2022. Selling the sites and flats at less rates is special this time. Information of layouts and flats developed by various prestigious developers will be available under one roof. Exhibition and sale of BDA properties is also special this time as a team of BDA will also be present at the expo. The developers who own sites and apartment complexes in the city and outskirts of the city are selling properties at affordable prices. The site prices start at Rs 6 lakh and apartments start at Rs18 lakh.

There are over 20 real estate developers, builders participating in VK "Property Expo 2022". The expo gives the opportunity to buy the sites and apartments that were approved by RERA, BDA or BMRDA. The expo also gives information about their housing projects by prominent real estate companies, builders, and developers.

This property expo also provides an opportunity for buying agricultural land. The representatives of the developers will give information on buying agricultural properties. The city dwellers can purchase agricultural land and enjoy the farming experience. The developers will help the public with this.

Free sessions

This year's Sri Datri VK Property Expo is bigger and better as more than 20 property developers will be offering their products. The visitors to the expo get a chance to have detailed discussion with the developers and get all their doubts clarified. Many developers are also organising site visits so that the customers can later go on a visit and select their dream properties.

The major highlight of the Sri Datri VK Property Expo is that it will give customers a chance to interact with the property developers and also get a sneak peek of what is being offered. The customers also get a chance to know more about various properties being developed both inside the city as well as outskirts at affordable rates.

The public can clarify their doubts about buying properties from developers and experts. The experts will provide information, free of cost.

Free entry to all

The entry is free for the expo. For more information about the event, please contact Mahesh Malagi at 9886721857.

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Grand old trees face axe for the tracks

Residents of Malleswaram not convinced with decision to cut the 100-year-old trees as their roots are growing against railway tracks

Dona Dey
c-dona.dey@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Malleswaram residents are joined up to protest the proposed chopping down of three healthy trees which have been at Malleswaram Railway Station for over a 100 years. The trees have now been marked for being axed, as according to South Western Railway officials, they are a danger to people as their roots are growing against the railway tracks.

Taking part in the protest held to condemn the authority's decision, Rekha Chari, a resident, told Bangalore Mirror, "We met and spoke to the station in-charge and the senior section engineer, as explained by them that the roots are uprooting the platform and will also affect the tracks. We will ask the forest department to explain the issue to us again, if their claim is valid, then the Railways can decide on the due course of action."

Many residents took part in the protest on Friday, asking the officials to come up with an alternate solution by which not only can the tracks be saved, the trees too are not put at risk. Arvind D, active mobility councillor of Ward 45, was among those protesting the move. "The proposal has been approved by the Forest department due to claims from Railways stating that the roots would harm the tracks. There can be another technical committee that should assess this and find an alternative to cutting the large trees," he told Mirror.

These trees at Malleswaram Railway Station have been marked

As part of the proposal, a copy of which is available with Mirror, the Tree Officer and and Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Bengaluru Urban Division reported that the Assistant Divisional Engineer, SWR Yeshwanthpur has requested the removal of the three Rain Trees at Malleswaram since the trees are posing threat to safety among passengers and moving trains.

The Tree Officer had submitted photographs of the trees and placed the same before a technical committee for perusal. On examining the documents, the committee observed that there are 28 trees at the station premises and the Railway authorities have requested for felling of only three Rain trees. "Hence, the selected trees, which have overgrown and are overmatured with sizeable GBH can be permitted for felling," it maintained.

Adding to its decision, the committee stated that the other 25 trees standing at the Railway station have to be protected and properly maintained. "The Railway authorities have to be suitably instructed."

The committee resolved that the Tree Officer and DCF Bengaluru Urban may initiate action, as per the powers vested with them under provisions of Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976.

Mirror tried to reach out to the division Railway manager but he refused to comment on the issue.

"We will ask the forest department to explain the issue to us again, if their claim is valid, then the Railways can decide on the due course of action –Rekha Chari, a protester

Students panic as war intensifies

Over 346 people from Karnataka are currently stranded in Ukraine as the Russian army attacks its neighbouring country. Out of the 346, 115 are from Bengaluru alone. After collating data on stranded students hailing from Karnataka through helpline and number and web application, the state government shared the details with the MEA control room in New Delhi and Embassy of India-Kyiv on near real time basis

Many students are requesting their parents to help them in evacuation. A woman from Nelamangala who is currently stuck in Ukraine has expressed fear that there is no support for her in that country. The student who is currently pursuing MBBS told her relatives that though there is food at her hostel, she is scared that there may be food shortage shortly. Many students have complained of erratic power supply. Many of these students are in towns near the Romanian border. However, the students have said that though the border is just 12 km away, they are unable to walk with heavy luggage and fear of Russian bombardment. Another parent said that he has been constantly in touch with his daughter who is currently safe there.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has appealed to Union Minister for External Affairs S Jaishankar to bring back Karnataka students safely. Bommai said, "I have spoken to the Union External Affairs minister. The Union government is doing everything possible to bring back the stranded safely. Possibilities of taking them to safety back through land route options are being explored as the air services have been hit by the war. There is information about secure movement possibilities towards the western part of Ukraine and the Indian Embassy in Ukraine is in touch with stranded Indian students."

Of 346 stranded in Ukraine, 115 are from Bengaluru. They are looking for a way out

Family of stranded students urge their evacuation, outside the Russian embassy in Delhi

The government has advised to follow advisories issued from the Embassy of India (eoiukraine.gov.in).

— Prakash VL

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Geopolitically incorrect

Oftentimes we heard the phrase 'diplomacy is still on the table' from the west and Russia. Fact is diplomatic decency is the primary element missing in the geopolitical crisis now plaguing eastern Europe.

The only entity shortchanged in the 'war' playing out now in drawing rooms is the Ukrainian citizen — collateral damage in the longstanding skirmish between the west and Russia. In the post coronavirus climate-ravaged economy, expansionism of powers is not only old-fashioned but irresponsible. War is sheer savagery and cannot be justified in any circumstances; looming oil/energy fiasco apart.

During the invasion of Iraq by US and allies in the early noughties, on the back of the 'weapons of mass destruction' trope that was proved incorrect after avoidable damages had been rendered in the Middle East, we saw relatively less broadcast propaganda.

Now, Russia Today (RT) is termed propaganda when you have gazillions of news outlets - traditional, broadcast and digital - peddling Washington's version 24/7.

Despite the evolution of news media post Iraq invasion, the historical context of what is happening — even the recent history — is largely absent from the narrative mounted by the western press.

Putin does not want Ukraine to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation or Nato — essentially, a military alliance and relic of war. He shall stop if the aforementioned is agreed upon — the long and short of it.

Such a demand from the world's largest country was not without credence. Both Russia and Ukraine are now in violation of the binding Minsk II agreement that mandates ceasefire in disputed territories along the border; the agreement no longer matters, said Putin after he recognised the 'independent republics' - Donetsk and Luhansk - in eastern Ukraine. According to him, Ukraine was not respecting the agreement and was targeting ethnic Russians there.

Russia does not want Nato missiles either, he said, pointing at Moscow placed along its border with the EU. Allegations of corruption and authoritarianism notwithstanding, national sovereignty is not something just the US understands.

Surely, it is unfortunate that the 'palindrome twosday' 22.02.2022 saw the west declaring 'Russian invasion of Ukraine has already begun' as Putin officially recognised the aforementioned 'breakaway republics' and sent 'peacekeeping/defensive' troops there: now, Russian troops are encircling Kyiv though Putin had categorically said that he does not want to occupy Ukraine, and wants to only 'demilitarise and denazify' that country.

No doubt the blame partly rests upon the west as much as it lies with an impatient Putin. Western enthusiasm to declare 'Russian invasion' was so much so that it would seem, somehow, Brexiteer Boris, and democrat Biden, finally got what they wanted from the 'aggressor'.

Putin's money laundered in London by his trusted oligarchs as alleged, huge dependence of European nations such as Germany, Italy, France and so forth on Russian gas reserves and Nato flexing muscles as the world is devoid of any major war barring excesses of aggressors in Myanmar and Yemen — there is an interplay of factors here as to why the west want to crush an emerging Russia, by shooting from Ukraine's shoulders.

The conflict is ideal for international arms manufacturers/dealers too as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan no longer suffice. The west is aiming to hit a murmuration of starlings with a single stone instead of salvaging the global economy out of the pandemic's clutches in earnest.

A former MI6 chief told an independent online news channel that analysis cannot be passed on or portrayed as intelligence just after the US national security advisor said in a press briefing that Russia was about to invade Ukraine.

Never once was Russia's backstory allowed to air in western media: just after Putin's address on Monday night, phrases like 'supreme leader' appeared in the 'liberal' press. Biden said Putin was waxing eloquent. West was too quick to delegitimise a seemingly furious Russian president's address to his nation. The US keeps forgetting that a militia ransacked the Capitol just a year ago.

Boris, meanwhile, has much to come clean on back home as the metropolitan police investigation into his lockdown parties gets underway — grapevine in Boris even hired a lawyer to answer the police questionnaire. For Boris, the situation in Ukraine has potential for 'the biggest war since 1945' — you see the connection.

The 'uselessness of sanctions' and 'EU's worries' over whether or not to deny Russia access to the SWIFT payment platform are curious. Many believe as long as post-war Europe cannot stand up to the US, the woke socio-cultural evolution of humanity is at stake.

The climate crisis is the most critical of all challenges the world is facing now, alongside reining in a mutating virus and the economic uncertainty it has unleashed in the global south. But the focus, surely, is elsewhere.

Intriguingly, where India finds itself or is lost rather in the conundrum, is terribly telling.

Best time to buy home may be now

Read on to know how you can take a calculated home-buying decision

| Arpika Bhosale
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Industry insiders say that a major price hike is expected soon, and buying a home as soon as possible is the only way to benefit from pandemic-induced consolidated property prices.

Atul Monga, founder, BASIC Home Loan, a fintech start-up, says, "Interest rates are at their lowest in India since 2020, but a hike is expected in the near future, probably around the beginning of the next financial year. So, now is the opportunity for home-buyers to get their home loans at the cheapest possible rates. Also, the cost of living has been going up in the past decade, and it is expected that this trend will continue. Therefore, buying a home at the earliest with low interest rates could be a wise investment and a good bargain."

Price-sensitive developers

According to Knight Frank India, property prices have already begun hiking by about 3 to 5 per cent from Q4 2021. Potential homebuyers fear that the upcoming hike would put their dream homes way out of their budget. However, developers have maintained that the hike would be gradual and will take a few years for full impact.

Mohit Malhotra, managing director of a real estate company, says, "The price rise would not be so aggressive that it would derail the market. At the end of the day, the end consumer will need to buy a home, and most developers have kept this as their priority while deciding price hikes."

Prop-tech driven prices

All new-age progress in property-tech has led many to believe that this will help developers drive down costs by managing rising construction costs, which is currently 18 per cent higher than two years ago. This advantage will be passed on to the buyer and will eventually lead to improved project deliveries.

Mark Taylor from Mace India,a prop-tech firm, says, "The use of technology has been picking up pace; Covid-19 has helped India and other countries in Asia to scale up the use of technology in construction.

In the future, the use of technology in logistics through 24-hour and 360-degree monitoring of a project will be completely driven by tech. Technology empowers developers with detailed analysis, thereby helping them avoid costly construction errors. This will enable faster project delivery and reduce the need of manpower, thereby driving down construction costs."

– Times Property

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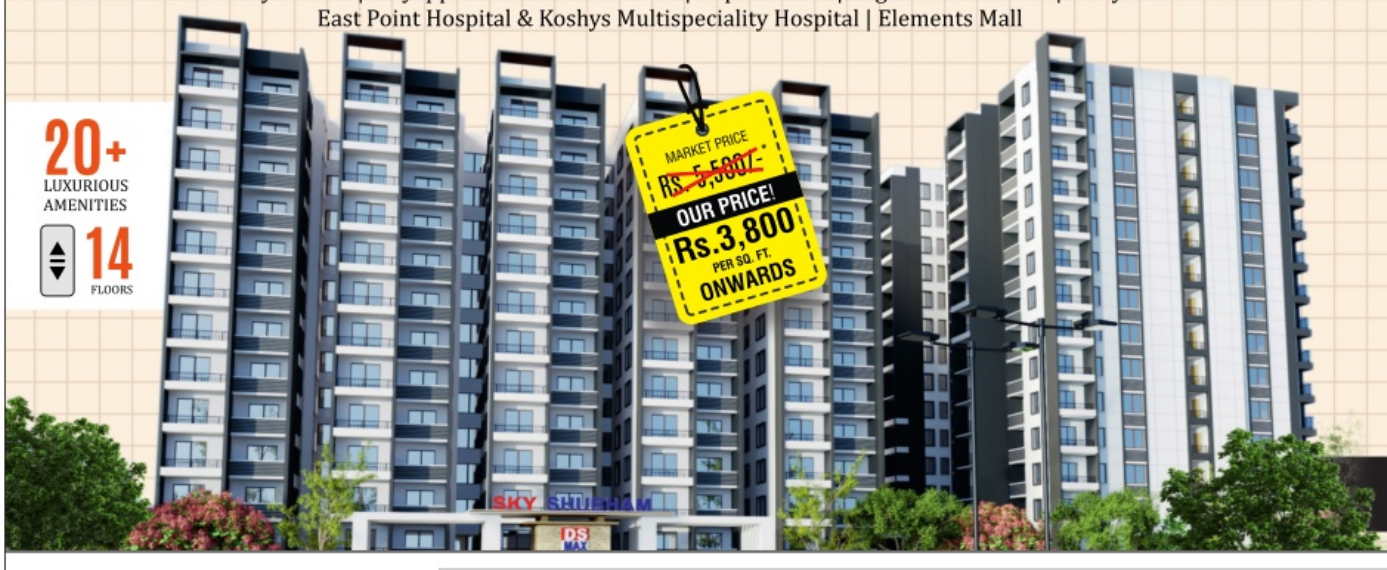

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Residents redesign drain covers

The project design and the costs are borne by the residents. "With over 1,500 residents staying in the locality, we crowdfunded and raised the amount to execute the project. The metal drain covers just cost somewhere between Rs 1,000-2,000," he explained.

Earlier they had installed ready-made galvanised iron drains, which are readily available at a cost of Rs 600. These drains were serving the purpose where one could lift the cover and access the drain. However there are chances of it rusting from the inside.

Recently BM had written about how concrete slabs over drains had become problematic for stray dogs, where the animals get stuck inside drains for days and one has to break open the slabs to free them. The new design readily solves these issues as well.

Brookefield Layout residents make a monthly contribution for the upkeep of the layout, for cleaning the streets, drains, fixing potholes amongst other maintenance works. In

the past, they have worked on projects like creating a dedicated footpath for residents and installed bollards. The residents do not depend on the administration for funds, they said, but rather do it themselves and bring in a change.

"When we tell the BBMP and get the work done, the work might be executed. But, at the end of the day, a contractor is carrying out the work and we can't ask him to do it the way we want it — there is no quality control. When we are initiating the project with our own funds and bringing in people to get the work done, we can ensure that a neat job is done. Hence this way we, by ourselves, can bring in the change in our own locality." Keerthi added.

Meanwhile, the layout is also working on a project costing close to Rs 6 lakh, which has been crowdfunded to create a duct culvert to lay cables, and will also act as a water duct. The culvert will be able to take the weight of vehicle movement. The project was initiated when the road was laid in a good condition, and Bescom wanted to come and dig the road to lay ducts. Hence in order to stop this and prevent another round of digging, the residents designed the culverts. The culverts are being constructed now.

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I, Drakshayanamma W/o P N Nagarajaiah Alias Nagarajachar R/o 1st Main Road 4th Cross Parvathinagar Virgonagar Bangalore 560049 Declare that Dakshayini , Dhakshayani and Drakshayanamma all three names belongs to same person .

I, Shivashankar Donnur S/O, Kalyanrao R/o No.29, Shiva Nilaya, Ghattahalli Main Road, Near Rayasandra Lake, Rayasandra, Bangalore-560099, have changed my name to Shivashankar Kalyan Rao Donnur for all purposes.

I, Dhanraj S/o Vithalrao R/o 58, 2nd floor, 11th main, Natraj Layout, JP nagar, 7th phase, Bangalore-560078, Karnataka, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Dhanraj V Pawar for all future purposes.

I, Leema Roseline P R/o. #58, 17th Cross, Bapujinagar, Bangalore have changed my name from Lima Roselin to Leema Roseline P for all purpose by affidavit sworn before H. S. Sakalesh Aradhya Public Notary dated 8 Oct, 2021.

I, Mooligar Haridasa Rao R/o No.71, Sri Hari, 39th B cross, Jayanagar 4th T Block, Bengaluru 560041 have changed my name to MOOLIGAR HARIDAS RAO affidavit Dt 24/02/2022 notary B.S Padma Prasad, B'luru

I Ursula Janet Fernandes R/a. at #94/7, 8th Cross, Venkatesh - wara Layout, S.G.Palya, DRC Post, B'lore-29, have changed my name to JANET ANDRADE vide affidavit dated 25.02.2022 before Notary K.V.MANI

I Ashwini Muni D/O, Muni Reddy R R/o G7, Sindhura Heights, Sai Sarana Layout, 11th Cross, Ananth Nagar Ph1, Electronic City Ph2, Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to Ashwini Reddy Munireddy

I, Raval Shivani Aka Siddhi Kiritkumar D/o Kiritbhai Ramniklal Raval have changed my name to Raval Shivani Kiritbhai vide affidavit No-SUBIN-KAKACRSFL08301042 49610688U dated 23/02/2022

I Mohammed Rafeeq S/O, Mohammed Ilyaz R/o #25, 4th Main, Chinnappa Garden, Benson Town, Bangalore-560046 have changed my name to Mohammed Rafiq

I, Sreenivasa Rao Dhulipalla R/o E-209,Shriram greenfield apartments, Bidarahalli, Bommenahalli, Bengaluru-560049 have changed my minor son name from Sreehan to Sreehan Dhulipalla

I, Rishieta Raina Rajneesh W/o Harsh Shrivastava R/o 704 VRR Fortuna janatha Colony ,Cermelaram Chikkabellandur Bangalore-560035 have changed my name to Rishieta Raina .

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City is favourite destination for MBA students

Bengaluru colleges offering MBA education continue to be the top preference for students according to a latest survey. According to a survey done by Shiksha.com report, Pune and Mumbai saw a negative relative lift, whereas Nagpur, Bengaluru, and Surat saw a favourable lift as the preferred MBA destination among aspirants in West India. When comparing 2019 with 2021, Nagpur had a nine-fold increase in preference. In case of preference of MBA colleges among aspirants in the eastern region, Bengaluru and Delhi-NCR continue to be the top choices, while Bhubaneswar outperforms Mumbai and Kolkata.

Popular entrance exam

The report reveals that following CAT, CMAT has risen to become India's second most popular MBA entrance exam. Exams, including CAT, MAT, SNAP, NMAT, and IBSAT, were less popular in 2021 than they were in 2020; a decline ranging between 15-50 percent. West and South India saw the most substantial declines in CAT, whereas North and Central India saw the most severe declines in MAT. CMAT is presently more popular among students than MAT, which was not the case in previous years. With the exception of South India, every region saw a large increase in CMAT. Overall preference for XAT, ATMA, and KIITEE MANAGEMENT, on the other hand, has increased by at least 10 pc in 2021 over 2020. However, preference for UPSEE and APICET has increased by more than 100 percent, although other regional exams have performed similarly, with minor ups and downs over the past year.

Classroom learning

According to the report, more than 65 percent of MBA students prefer classroom learning over online lectures. To fulfil this need, over 60 percent of B-schools are likely to restart offline classes by February 2022. With the reduction in the number of B-School options and the degree of uncertainty, the average number of entrance exams per student has also decreased substantially in 2021 across all parts of India, except for East India. In 2021, 97 percent of students appeared for three entrance exams. This number stood at six exams per student in 2020. In 2021, students in the West (97 percent) and North (94 percent) took up to four entrance exams, whereas in 2020, they took up to five.

Bengaluru top choice

When it comes to the choice of college location, students' choice for MBA colleges in their home state, towns, and regions increased dramatically when comparing 2020 to 2021. The covid-19 epidemic may be to blame. When seeking for MBA colleges in 2021, aspirants from East and North India chose large cities such as Delhi, Bengaluru, and Mumbai over their home state or town, whilst aspirants from West and South India selected their home state and/or home town over large cities. Students in Central India, on the other hand, were split between the two options, stated the report. Furthermore, students from North India are increasingly choosing Lucknow as a preferred destination for MBA studies. When compared with previous years, aspirants from Southern India choose to study MBA in their home states and cities.

180 degree shift

Vivek Jain, Chief Business Officer, Shiksha.com asserted, "MBA is one of the most sought-after postgraduate programmes among young Indian students. The diversity of specialisation, growing demand for evolved Management roles, and availability of quality institutions, together have made it retain its popularity among students. We have seen how covid has influenced the way India views and consumes education. We've noticed a complete 180-degree shift in how education is delivered, from traditional classrooms to online learning. In the last 20 months, B-Schools around the country appear to have effectively absorbed this transition, which has been fueled by innovation. B-schools have redesigned and changed their curricula, even introducing new courses that are relevant to today's world and the future which is an optimistic move."

Reviews, placement matrices, recruiters key elements to decision-making

Choosing colleges

The MBA Outlook Report 2022 also revealed that student reviews, recruiters and placement matrices, college ratings and reviews accounted for the key decision-making elements when it came to researching and choosing MBA colleges in 2021. This was closely followed by a stronger need for the right programmes and industrial training/ internship opportunities offered by the institutions.

MBA in Finance popular

MBA in Finance continues to be the top choice for students.

— Agencies

Companies to hunt for talent to tackle post-covid world

A drop in placements in 2020 as a result of the pandemic has also been a concern for students considering a B-School. Companies will hunt for the greatest personnel to assist them overcome the epidemic in the future, as markets embrace new ways in the post-covid age. As a result, MBA aspirants may soon find themselves seizing innovative possibilities to demonstrate their abilities. Similar to previous years, the report revealed that value-adds, like placement and internships continued to be the top value-add that students were looking for in an MBA college followed by work experience while studying, quality students, budget for startup, corporate exposure, among others, have gained popularity among MBA aspirants.

Opportunities for Teachers and Resource Persons

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

SPRING(ING) TIME

A squirrel, almost easy to miss, chomps away at a flower. I made the most of my terrace during the pandemic, with the birds and squirrels providing my camera with fodder.

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Caroline Radhakrishnan**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

A commuter's paradise lost

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The woes of poor roads in the city seem to be increasing in the city with untarred, pothole-filled and dust-laden stretches making commuting nearly impossible for residents.

The residents of Akshaynagar, Yelenahalli are irked with the poor road conditions that have shown no sign of improvement in the last two years. The stretch of road was dug by BBMP almost two years ago. Initially, the road was of 300 metres, while digging the road, BBMP had cut almost 100 metres of the road.

Just two weeks after the road has been filled up by the BBMP workers, BWSSB had once again dug the road for laying down drainage lines. Recently, Gas Operative India had once again dug the road for laying the pipelines. They too had cut the width of the road, as a result of which, the space reduced significantly.

Residents complain that the authorities had filled up the road in a poor manner. Instead of tarring the road, they had placed loose stones on its surface.

A resident of the area who requested to be anonymous said, "We have been living this horror for years now. The officials are not responsible at all. The stones are placed loosely on the road because of which, there is a lot of dust. It has become difficult to keep the windows open."

Another resident of the area said, "The road has become extremely narrow. Even if two vehicles are on the road, the road will become congested and there will be a full-fledged traffic jam. It makes me late to work and on top of that, the continuous honking has caused a lot of noise pollution. Because of all this, we are considering moving to another area."

Residents complain that workers did a shoddy job of filling up the road's holes

Residents are worries about the health of their kids as well. "My kid has asthma. All the dust makes me worry as I don't want my kid to suffer from any complications," said another resident of the area.

The residents have also raised complaints with the BBMP officials. "I have raised tickets with the BBMP. However, the very next day they closed the tickets without even visiting the place. I even spoke to the chief engineer. He said that he would come, but not once did he visit the place. He even stopped receiving my calls," said Sourav Sen, another resident.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bugle Rock Park on Bull Temple Road is a unique rock garden in the city. The rocks in this park are a part of the Peninsular Gneiss -- a type of metamorphic rocks. Peninsular Gneiss is visible in various parts of the city, but at the Bugle Rock Park different sizes and shapes of the boulders are exposed. The rock is assessed to be about 3,000 million years old and of particular interest to geologists. Kempe Gowda II (who came to power in 1585) is credited with building four watchtowers setting limits for the city's expansion, of which was a tower on the Bugle Rock. A famous resident in the trees of the Bugle Rock Park is the Indian flying fox or the fruit bats.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

As a citizen, what are the steps you would suggest for promoting public transport?

KL Subramanyam,
BM reader
To improve further the public transport system my suggestions are: Introduce integrated transport system between different modes. A Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system could be introduced for which, the ministry can provide the finance. Provide bike lanes wherever required. Tax-free bus and rail systems for workers roping in corporate bodies can also incorporated.

Chetan Singh, BM reader
Make public transport more economical and eco-friendlier. Electric buses are an ideal solution. Integrated public transport & Integrated mass rapid transport system will be a huge boost to public transport system. We should also impart in primary school children the values of using public transport.

BNS Ratnakar,
citizen volunteer
Sustainable mobility in the form of electric feeder bus services, dedicated cycle lanes and user-friendly footpaths across the city will encourage citizens to use public transport.

Vinod Jacob, BM reader
The first and last mile connectivity issue has to be solved. All metro, bus, railway stations should be connected efficiently with each other. Also, we need a ubiquitous card or UPI payment system to have more consumers use public transport.

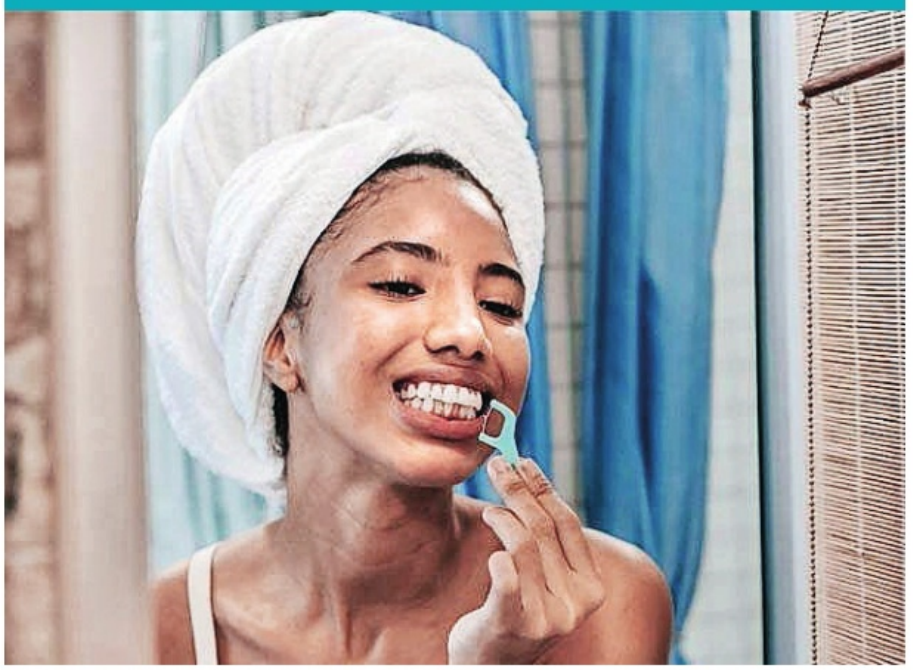
Dr NK Satya Pal Sharma
The public transport staff needs to be more cordial and approachable to the common man. The punctuality must be improved. Let it be even privatised for better performance.

SPEAK TO US

What can the government do to spread awareness on increasing the green cover in B'luru?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Get flossin'



Your smile can be the most attractive feature of your face, so caring for your teeth is important. Doc explains flossing helps maintain oral health

Ria Bhatia
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

"You have a beautiful smile" – We've all heard this at least once in our lives. While many associate teeth with just oral health; as a beauty writer, this reporter strongly believes that smiling is one of the greatest features of our faces and is always at the forefront. So, maintaining and caring for your teeth as much as your skin is of paramount importance and should become a mandate for you, if it hasn't already. Amongst the at-home practices at rituals that one can do for better teeth, 'flossing' caught my attention. Dr Reshma Chawla, expert dentist and founder, Blanco Aesthetics explains the crux of all things flossing.

But what's flossing?

Flossing is a dental care habit that involves using a thin cord (thread-like flossing tool) to clear out all the particles and dirt caged between the finest lines and openings of the teeth. Flossing basically reaches areas that a brush can't and cleans 'em well to avoid the accumulation of plaque. "Flossing covers the regions of your teeth that a toothbrush can't reach! So, it helps to remove any food particles stuck between the teeth thus cleaning off the bacteria. Reduced bacterial load equals fewer cavities, which equals better gum health, and thus – no bad breath," says Dr Chawla. "Brushing and flossing should always be carried out together. Not flossing will lead to cleaning only 65% of the teeth surfaces. That's equivalent to cleaning a glass only from the outside but not inside (I know right?)," she adds.

How to floss

"There are several types of dental flosses available and each has a different mode of use. The most common, however, is the threaded dental floss, which is like a thin string that can be manoeuvred easily," says Dr Chawla. She explains the right technique of flossing your teeth, "Take approximately 16-18 inches of the floss, roll it around both your middle fingers and use your thumb and index finger to gently pass the floss in between the two teeth. Hug the teeth with the floss and gently pass it to the whole length of the teeth. Repeat the process in between all the teeth. Always floss before you brush, so that all the food particles and tartar are dislodged before you brush, also, this will avoid you forgetting to floss altogether." She says, "It does need a learning curve, but once you get a hang of it, it doesn't take long."

Common types of flossing

"Unwaxed dental floss are thin strings made up of nylon whereas, in waxed dental floss, the string is coated with wax to allow easy passage between the teeth. Floss picks or floss holders are small plastic devices with a curved end that holds a tiny piece of floss to avoid holding the tread and wrapping it around your fingers. I usually do not recommend these since they generate a lot of plastic waste. Then, there is a dental tape that is wider and thicker than the standard thread floss and is used when the gaps are wider between teeth. Lastly, water flossers are oral irrigators that spray water in between your teeth – great for those who have trouble with traditional flossing," explains Dr Chawla.

The benefits of flossing aren't just limited to your teeth. "Flossing definitely directly helps in improving your overall health since it prevents gum disease. Gum disease is linked to multiple health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, rheumatoid arthritis, complications during pregnancy etc," shares Dr Chawla.

MIRRORLIGHTS

Effects of weight loss on skin, hair

Dr Sejal Saheta, Dermatologist and Venereologist, InUrSkn, shares some major changes that can occur because of weight loss and what you can do about it.

Acne is a condition that is primarily caused by hormonal changes in the body. A diet plan aimed at reducing weight by controlling the caloric intake tends to stress the body. Stress, in turn, triggers hormonal changes which can cause acne outbreaks or intensify existing acne. This condition is colloquially called Dieter's Acne.

When the body has had enough time to adapt to the new diet regimen, the acne also tends to reduce.

A dermatologist can prescribe oral and topical medications that can help reduce acne outbreaks. In case the outbreak is very severe, more advanced procedures like chemical peels, etc. can be recommended.

Several people observe fat loss from their face when they set out on their weight loss journey. Plan your regimen with a dietician or fitness trainer. While on your weight loss journey, ensure that you follow a good skincare routine. Speak to your dermatologist about the same and the possibility of supplementing your diet with nutrients suited for your skin.

Another common effect of weight loss on the skin is visible stretch marks along with sagging skin. There are some scar and stretch mark reduction topical

applications available, but these have limited efficacy.

"I have observed treatments aimed at enhancing collagen levels in the skin work best towards reducing stretch marks and also tightening the skin. Micro-needling accompanied by PRP usage helps stimulate collagen while resurfacing the skin on the area being treated," suggests Dr Saheta.

Hair fall after weight loss is quite a common phenomenon. It usually begins three months after undergoing weight loss and can continue for up to six months or sometimes, even longer. This occurs primarily due to a lack of proteins and other nutrients like iron, zinc, etc. Avoid crash diets and diet fads that favour one food group over another. It is better to choose a balanced diet and burn the required calories with exercise rather than consuming less food. Further, a dermatologist can prescribe oral and topical medications which will aid in hair growth.

—Kalwyna Rathod

Life does flash before our eyes when we die

Ever imagined what happens in the brain when a person dies? Brain scans of a dying man revealed that our entire life flashes in front of our eyes like lightning.

What happens inside your brain during near-death experiences and after death are questions that have puzzled neuroscientists for centuries.

A new study published in the journal Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience suggests that our brain remains active and coordinated during and after the transition to death, and may even be programmed to orchestrate the whole ordeal.

"Something we may learn from this research is: although our loved ones have their eyes closed and are ready to leave us to rest, their brains may be replaying some of the nicest moments they experienced in their lives," said Dr Ajmal Zemmar, a neurosurgeon at the University of Louisville, US, who organised the study.

Neuroscientists at the University of Tartu, Estonia, recorded the activity of a dying 87-year-old patient with epilepsy. They found rhythmic wave patterns similar to those that occur during dreaming and meditation.

—IANS

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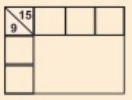
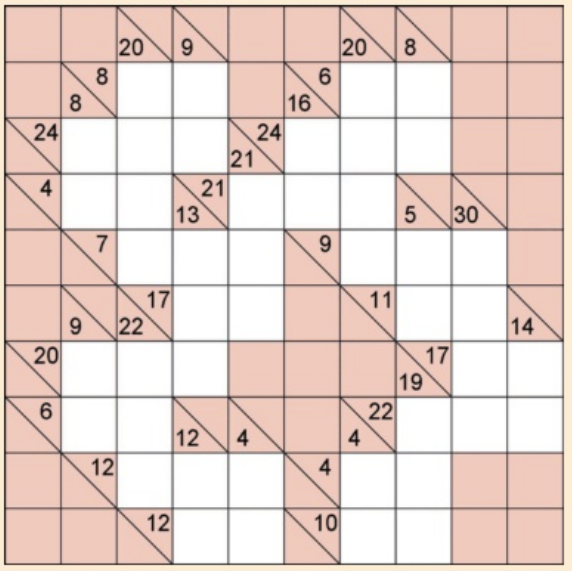
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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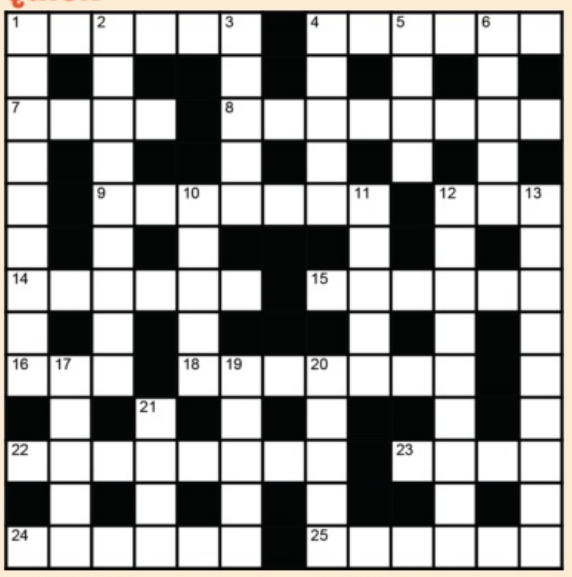


ACROSS

1 Tell a story (6)
4 Periods, ages (6)
7 Uses a knife? (4)
8 Self-government (8)
9 Deletion (7)
12 Lyricist Gershwin (3)
14 In a world of one's own, in a way? (6)
15 Sharp bend (6)
16 Existed (3)
18 Covering, hanging or adorning (7)
22 22 acre park between M.G Road and Cubbon Road (8)
23 Fernando group (4)
24 Adjust or harmonize (6)
25 Ancient, ascetic Jew (6)

DOWN

1 She has lost her husband but not her wealth (4,5)
2 Flexibility or slimness (9)
3 School tests (5)
4 Go in (5)
5 Has (4)
6 Greek poet (5)
10 Having a gun (5)
11 Intestinal bacteria (1,4)
12 Unable to be read (9)
13 Total (9)
17 Call at sea to stop (5)
19 Our currency? (5)
20 Flat surface (5)
21 Place; stead (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS M

BGR'ZI GMTB JLSIM U TLOOTI YXUZQ GH KUCMIYY. BGR KRYOM'O TGYI LO.

Linemaro

Why do you need pepper spray? You are a stunner

Mindchow

Life is a shipwreck but we must not forget to sing in the lifeboats

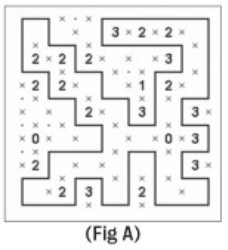
Joke of the day

Confucius say the best way to save face is to keep the lower part of it shut

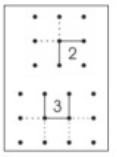
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



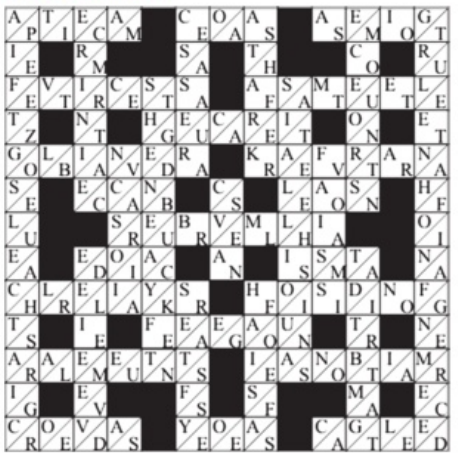
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

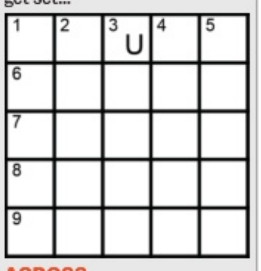
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

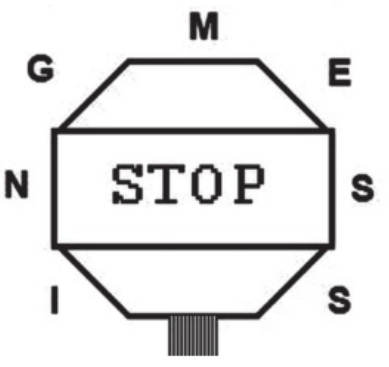
1 Tuffs; 6 A clan;
7 Auger; 8 Agues;
9 Girth

DOWN

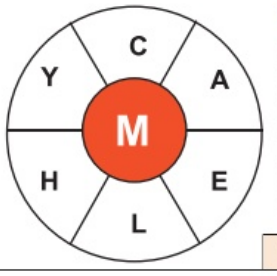
1 Arcus; 2 Astir;
3 GN Aug; 4 Ugh FA;
5 L feet

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

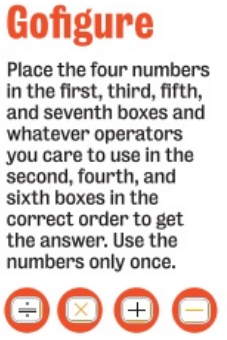
SudokuChallenge

		9	5	7		4		
4			1		9	2		
	5	7	8					
6		1						
	8						5	
						3		6
					7	8	4	
		2	9		8			3
		4		6	5	9		

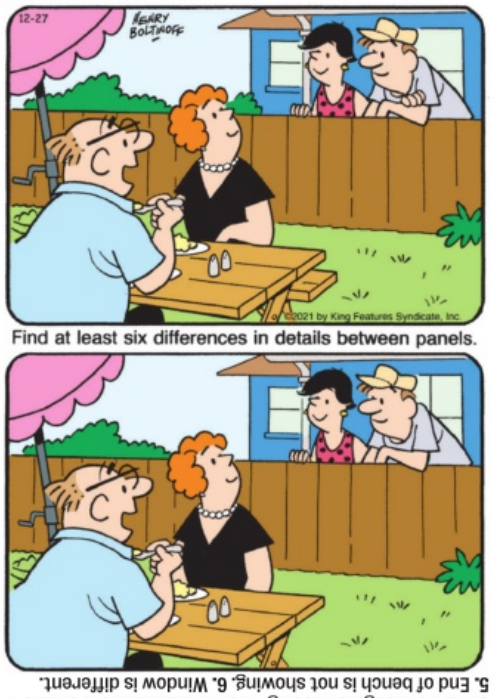
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Fingers are not showing. 3. Part of hedge is missing. 4. Umbrella handle is smaller. 5. End of bench is not showing. 6. Window is different.

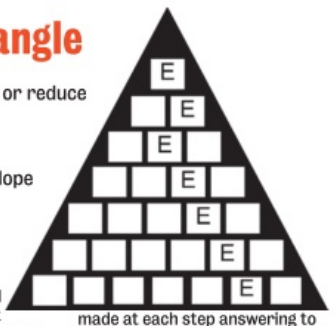
Riddler

Swaff is sitting at his desk, being cool, when his younger brother Geemiee walks up. Geemiee had recently been practicing his (fake) magical powers, trying to turn cheese into more cheese, so he believes he can beat Swaff in anything. He sets up a little competition, the first to get 5 ounces of water to freeze, will be proclaimed the coolest guy in their home. They set up some rules, as follows: -They both can only use normal water that comes out of their stainless steel faucet. -They both use identical containers -They both must use the same freezer, at the same time. Now, Swaff realizes that if he was to lose, he would become less cool, he just doesn't roll like that. So, how can Swaff have the best chance of winning/Geemiee?

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Conducted
4 Downhill racer
5 Valleys
6 Closed as an envelope
7 On a tether

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

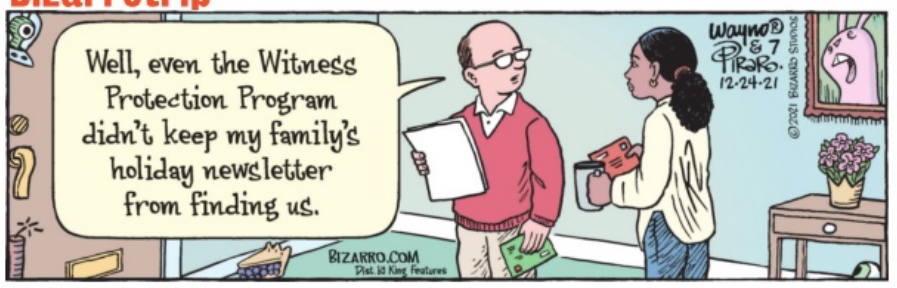


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip


Well, even the Witness Protection Program didn't keep my family's holiday newsletter from finding us.
Wayno & Piraro 12-24-21
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

"...AND MAMMA IN HER 'KERCHIEF, AND I IN MY CAP, HAD JUST SETTLED OUR BRAINS...
FOR A LONG WINTER'S NAP"
WAIT... IN HER WHAT?
'KERCHIEF
GESUNDHEIT

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel better. Situations may be under control. Your network may help you on the work front. You may plan for overseas travelling. This is a good time to boost domestic harmony and improve your love life. With the help of creativity, you may bring some artefacts or creative stuff home. You may also plan to watch movies or go out with friends or family.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You may feel dull due to sleeplessness and may be unfocused on goals. This may affect your efficiency at work. You may plan to visit to a religious place. But in the late evening, you may be blessed by your elders and may realise your mistakes and figure a way out of messy situations. You are advised to take care of your parents' health.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your creativity may be on high so you may plan to renovate your house. You may buy some stuff to renovate your house or office which may boost your social status. You may develop harmony with your spouse. This will increase harmony in your domestic life. Disputes with friends, co-workers and partners may settle down. You may receive good news in terms of litigations.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you will be glad and will be able to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditures, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you implement plans. Your siblings and subordinates will be more helpful. You may plan to visit elders or a religious place.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may meet some old friends or be busy in a social get together. You may be more excited today. New innovations may be there in terms of business. You may receive unexpected material gains. Kids may give good news in terms of studies. Love birds may enjoy quality moments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Until late in the afternoon, you may feel dull, which may reflect in your way of working. But with the help of elders' blessings, you may regain speed. Pay extra attention on children's health. You will be in a winning position against your enemies and opponents. Investors must be careful while taking difficult decisions. Stomach-related issues may make you upset.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be happy at work. You may take some important decisions by the end of the day, which will help you in the near future. You may plan to go on a short trip. Your subordinates may be cooperative. You may expect good news in terms of siblings' success. You may be in winning positions in legal matters too. Students may be more focused to achieve their targets.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your communication skills may help you on the professional front. You may be more polite to everyone around you, which may help you to speed up your projects. Love birds may exchange their views with each other, which may strengthen the foundation of their relationship.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. New partnerships may give you benefits. Your energy levels may be high. Your hard work and enthusiasm may pay off in terms of financial gains. Self respect may protect you from negative people around you.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, the negative moon will make you upset. Sleeplessness will give you anxiety and affect your daily routine. It is advised to avoid risky adventure tours and rush driving. You will spend money on worthless stuff, which might create negative energy around you. Oversending will affect your savings.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Small investments may convert into big profits. Your efficiency may increase. You are likely to get success with less effort. You may hear good news in legal matters also. You may establish full control over your opponents and rivals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may get tired due to overworking. This may make you lazy and careless. Be patient. If you are planning to go on an adventurous tour, postpone it for a while. Your past investments may convert into dead stock. Students are advised to work hard. You may have back aches or nervous system or lever-related issues and skin issues.

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Pavin Adesh, 6 years, Bengaluru

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SOLUTIONS

BULL'S EYE
acme, ALCHEMY, amyl, calm, came, camel, clam, helm, lame, mace, mach, male, meal, mealy

SOLVE IN 1M
1+2+3+6=12 .
2+3+6+12=23 ,
3+6+12+23=44 ,
6+12+23+44=85

FAST FIVE

S	T	U	F	F
U	S	A	G	E
C	A	N	A	L
A	R	G	U	E
R	I	G	H	T

QUOTE UNCODE
You're only given a little spark of madness. You mustn't lose it.

STRIKE OUT

P	I	C	A	C	O	S	S	M	O	G				
Z	T	H	E	A	R	T	N	E						
I	R	A	H	O	R									
E	V	I	C	T	S	A	S	T	U	T	E			
O	L	I	V	E	R	K	A	F	T	A	N			
E	C	A	B	S	L	O	S	F						
L	R	U	B	E	L	A	I							
E	D	I	C	N	I	M	A	N						
C	R	E	A	K	S	H	O	S	I	N	G			
T	E	E	A	G	A	N	R	E						
R	A	M	E	T	S	I	S	O	B	A	R			
E	A	E	S	F	A	E								
C	O	D	A	Y	E	A	A	G	E	D				

QUICK

A	T	T	U	N	E	E	S	S	E	N	E			
S	E	E	N	E	L	T								
C	A	R	I	A	P	P	A	A	B	B	A			
V	L	U	L	I	G									
W	A	S	D	R	A	P	I	N	G	E				
O	S	E	L	E	R									
D	R	E	A	M	Y	D	O	G	L	E	G			
I	N	R	C	L	G									
W	E	R	A	S	U	R	E	I	R	A				
H	H	M	E	S	E									
C	U	T	S	A	U	T	O	N	O	M	Y			
I	I	X	N	W	O									
R	E	L	A	T	E	E	P	O	C	H	S			

MENSA PUZZLE
Stop messing around

RIDDLER All Swaff has to do in order to be the winner, is use hot water. Geemlee, being less cool than Swaff, didn't know that water with a hot average temperature freezes faster than water that is at room temperature. The phenomenon that hot water may freeze faster than cold is often called the Mpemba effect.

SUDOKU

2	1	9	5	7	6	4	3	8
4	6	8	1	3	9	2	7	5
3	5	7	8	2	4	6	9	1
6	2	1	4	5	3	7	8	9
7	8	3	6	9	2	1	5	4
9	4	5	7	8	1	3	2	6
5	9	6	3	1	7	8	4	2
1	7	2	9	4	8	5	6	3
8	3	4	2	6	5	9	1	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, De, Led, Sled, Dales, Sealed, Leashed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 – 4 – 7 + 8 = 1
Medium
6 x 7 + 3 – 5 = 40
Hard
5 / 5 + 8 x 4 = 36

LOOP

KAKURO

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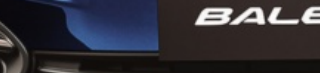

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